
Promoting Preparedness Lesson

Group Oral Presentation Lesson

Learning Objectives

- Students will brainstorm and outline ideas in a structured format
- Students will write 1-page persuasive speeches
- Students will be able to orally communicate a thesis and supporting details to various groups of people.

Preparation

Instructor chooses topic(s) from introduction. Instructor chooses appropriate forum and population for students to present their speeches (for example- local senior citizen apartment complex, other classrooms in school, town hall meeting, etc). Instructor may want to do background research on chosen topic to have website resources, book resources, and other research tools available for students.

Introduction

Instructor explains topic(s) to students, explaining the importance of spreading the message outside their classroom. Instructor emphasizes need for students to persuade others to think and behave differently.

Topics

- ICE- In Case of Emergency: Located in cell phones, the ICE contact can be found by first responders, co workers, or neighbors in the event of a medical emergency. If everyone had ICE in their phone or in their wallet, loved ones could be notified of a health emergency immediately and have the opportunity to provide potentially life-saving medical information. Most people do not know what ICE is or how to enter ICE into your phone. Many cell phones have ICE as a built in contact, but it can be entered in any phone by adding a new contact, entering 'ICE' or 'In Case of Emergency' in the contact name and entering phone number(s).
- Turn Around, Don't Drown: Flash Floods are rapid flooding of low-lying areas such as washes, rivers, and streams. Flash floods are usually caused by heavy rain from a storm or collapse of dam or human structure. The hazard of flash floods is that they are severely sudden and often are not perceived as dangerous. Although most people believe they can walk or drive through large amounts of water, in reality, as little as 2 feet of water can carry away most SUV-sized vehicles. In the US, more people die in floods than by lightning, tornadoes, or hurricanes. If everyone followed the advice "Turn Around, Don't Drown," there would be a lot less injuries and deaths caused by flash floods.
- Don't be Scared, Be Prepared: Building emergency kits and forming communication plans are important elements of being ready for any kind of emergency. However, most families do not have either. It is not only important to equip your own household with a kit and a plan, but to also motivate family, friends, and neighbors to assemble their kits and plans as well. Many people don't know that they should have an emergency kit, or don't set aside time to assemble one. What information have we learned that we could use to convince people that NOW is the time to build an emergency kit and form a communications plan?

Instructor conducts brief class discussion to gather overall ideas and thoughts from students, preparing them to engage in more detailed brainstorming in small (2-6) groups of students. Instructor assigns 1 topic to entire class or multiple topics to different student groups.

Procedure

Students brainstorm, outline, plan, and write their group speeches, working together to formulate individual speaking roles. Instructor guides and encourages students to consider audience type and to evaluate the most effective ways to compell audience to action, using supporting details such as case stories and statistics. Students work on their speeches over a period of multiple class periods, possibly practicing their speeches to each other before a final presentation to the chosen audience.

Closing & Assessment

Teacher grades written speeches, outlines, and oral delivery of speeches. Separate grades can also be given for students' ability to collaborate and work together in groups. Students will check in with target audience 2 weeks after delivery to see if appropriate action was taken.